

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 035348

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 035348

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, PFOR, UR, GE

SUBJECT: V-E DAY CELEBRATIONS

REF: (A) SNATO 0750 (B) STATE 024912 (C) BONN U2128 NOTAL

BONN PLEASE PASS HARTMAN AND SONNENFELDT

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PAGE 02 STATE 035348

1. DEPARTMENT WOULD WELCOME FURTHER ALLIED VIEWS AND

INFORMATION ON SOVIET AND EE PLANS FOR V-E DAY CELEBRATIONS THROUGH LOW-KEY LOCAL CONSULTATIONS AS APPROPRIATE (REF A). WE WOULD NOT WISH TO GET TOO FAR OUT IN FRONT ON THIS SUBJECT, HOWEVER, GIVEN PRELIMINARY STATE OF OUR OWN THINKING ON CERTAIN IMPORTANT ASPECTS AS STATED BELOW. IT IS OUR EXPECTATION THAT THE MAJOR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON V-E DAY AMONG OUR NATO ALLIES WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE PLACE IN NATO POLADS AND IN BONN GROUP.

2. WE HAVE NOT REACHED A DECISION AS TO WHAT WE MAY DO OUTSIDE GERMAN TERRITORY. WHILE FIRM ON GERMANY ITSELF (REFTEL B) WE ARE STILL CONSIDERING VARIOUS OPTIONS FOR ACTIVITIES OF NATURE CITED IN PARA 2 OF REFTTEL B. WE PREFER TO AVOID A FORMAL BONN GROUP STATEMENT (REFTEL C) SUCH AS UK PAPER (PARA 3, REFTTEL A), ALTHOUGH WE AGREE

THAT THERE SEEMS TO BE CLOSE SIMILARITY OF VIEWS BETWEEN US, UK AND FRENCH. (FYI: FORMULATION IN UK PAPER CONCERNING AVOIDANCE OF CELEBRATIONS QUOTE WHICH APPEAR TO BE DESIGNED TO DO MORE THAN COMMEMORATE DEFEAT OF NAZISM END QUOTE MAY MISS IMPORTANT DISTINCTION. SHOULD WE DECIDE TO PARTICIPATE IN SOME FORM OF

COMMEMORATIVE EVENT, MOST USEFUL EMPHASIS MIGHT BE NOT ON THE DEFEAT ITSELF BUT ON THE COOPERATIVE NATURE OF THE ALLIED EFFORT, WITH STRESS IN OUR CASE ON US CONTRIBUTION, AS WELL AS RELEVANCE OF EAST-WEST COOPERATION NOW AND IN FUTURE IN PEACEFUL ENDEAVORS. END FYI.)

3. THE DEPARTMENT HOPES TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON EVENTS WE MIGHT PARTICIPATE IN SHORTLY. INGERSOLL

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